



## Vision 2020 Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2017

7:30 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

Present: Juli Brazile, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Sue Doctrow, Amy Goldstein, Scott Lever, Nat Strosberg, Jen Toole, Annie LaCourt

Visitor: Amos Meeks

1. Introductions
2. June minutes approved as written.
3. Survey 2017 — comments still need to be logged. Elisabeth designed an Excel sheet to make it easier. Need more volunteers to help.
4. Survey 2018 planning. Discussed reasons why we shouldn't do paper anymore. Now there is no place to send paper surveys for mailing. Clerk said they won't open the survey for us anymore. "Too busy this year". Juli is looking into other mailing services but it will be expensive. Juli also looked into ways to do it online. For our SNAP software we'd have to pay more to go online. Other ways involving signing in on a website but we would need some way to prevent duplicates. One way is to use street address, can that populate into precinct numbers? Will requiring street addresses discourage people from answering? For people who don't have a computer — maybe set up in the library with a volunteer. Prices based on where it is hosted (with SNAP or on our own). Changing to Survey Monkey was discussed and seemed to have a lot of support. It is not clear how to prevent people from "stuffing the ballot box" but some felt it might not be a big problem. The only real advantage of SNAP over Survey Monkey was that it allowed paper/scanning. Nobody has contacted Juli yet with survey topics for 2018. (Amos said Sustainable Arlington wants to add something but wants to see the 2017 results first). What should next steps be? Should Juli and others sit down with Jenny, Adam and Nat and ask if the town wants us to do a survey? If not, it will stop. If so, we want it to be electronic, using Survey Monkey, and would like the town to help with outreach/marketing. Voted on proposing whether it can be done this year with Survey Monkey. Amy: Are we moving to online only because of Clerk? Elisabeth: Not willing to give up survey even for 1 year, feels it's too valuable. Discussion of whether to include a mailing in Census telling people survey is moving online. Maybe insert could go in tax bill instead. Or, in both but discourage people from writing comments. Make it a different color so it really stands out. Announcement that survey is going online. Include questions or topics and a website link. Juli confirms that we have \$2000 in CDBG funds that are allocated for printing costs related to the 2018 Survey. That should cover extra paper copies in public locations and an insert in the Census mailing. We need to price things — a full sheet will cost quite a bit more than a 1/3 sheet "buck slip."
5. Town Day — Elisabeth, Juli to help set up. Juli — take rectangular panel and modify it to draw people in to give input by changing "volunteer" wording to "share a thought" (Amy's suggestion). Elisabeth will edit and reprint. Amos: goal for Town Day is to tell people about new grant to give towns funding to assess municipal vulnerability to climate change. E.g flooding. Info about community choice aggregation. New Economy working group — issues of sustainability and climate change related to how we do business. Climate change preparedness group. Spy Pond gave some input and asked for more room under the tent.

Fiscal Resources — will be doing columns in the Advocate on how government works.  
Education Task Group — Scott wants to have people use “dots” to indicate priorities.  
Discussed upcoming events. Will show the Most Likely to Succeed film again but it’s now too late for September (cancel town hall booking for Sept 27). “Future of Work” panel might not happen but the Lyons Room is booked in October just in case.

6. Juli needs to get info about what funds the Task Groups need. DTG might want \$600 for two events. DTG has a new intern and Scott would like to get one for Education TG (Melanie at the HS coordinates this).
7. Goals for Standing Committee for the year. Gave overview of network map (introduced Amos to what it is). Nat said he wants it to evolve. Need to convene goal discussions again. Lay out process for re-examination of each goal (Annie). Stakeholder convening will be the kickoff to goal updating process. Broader community engagement steps, multimodal. (E.g. Survey, get broader community input). Community meetings will be broader than the stakeholder (leadership) meetings. Discussed more about how the process should work. Let’s not do too many in one year. Goal is not likely to change that much, but the steps underneath (action steps) will change and will need updating. Vision 2020 role vs stakeholders’ roles (stakeholders are people working in the space). Individual conversations with stakeholders will occur before it goes out in public for input. Convene some of the more obvious ones first. Pressures will build on the schools in the next few years so education should be discussed later. Plan meeting dates, All Precincts meeting needs to be scheduled. Standing Committee meets on April 4, so the week of the 9th is the time for All Precincts Meeting. Let’s coordinate with John Leone and Josh (Pct 8,10), BoS, etc. and try to coordinate it with other efforts.
8. New business. Juli: True Story Theatre applied for new grant with Planning Department as lead partner. Listening project — respectful dialog. We might want to join as a partner but, if so, must commit to 3 presentations.

Submitted by Sue Doctrow